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To His Excellency Thomas Johnston Esq.r Governor.
The Honourable Council and Members of Assembly for
The State of Maryland.

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The Memorial of Ephraim Blaine Deputy Commissary
General of Purchases for the Middle Department.

Humbly Sheweth

That nothing but the most pressing want of Salt in the Department assigned to your Memorialist (in which the Grand American Army has been long employed) prompted your Memorialist to order his Assistant Purchaser Mr. M.Germont to Seize a Quantity of Salt in the State of Maryland.

Your Memorialist flatters himself he has a proper Idea of the Risk of the Importer and the encouragement necessary to be given Merchants who adventure with Patriotic Views, on this Principle he expected that a generous Price from the Public would be satisfactory to the Owners especially as the Article taken was solely for the public Use, Your Memorialist hopes for the Legislative Authority of the State of Maryland to enable him to secure and send forward to his Excellency General Washington's Camp, The aforesaid Salt.

ARCHIVES
OF THE STATE OF
MARYLAND.

Without your Speedy Aid and Assistance in the Premisses Your Memorialist is Certain the Army will be greatly distress'd for the want of that Article, which is not in his Power otherways to procure. Your Memorialist begs leave to Subscribe himself, The Public's and Your Honour's

most Obedient Servant,

Eph.m Blaine
D.: C.: G.: of Purchases